

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



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UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 2
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-02-12

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 2 closes commercial salmon fishing in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet on Monday, June 25, 2012 from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

In the Deshka River, weir counts combined with angler reports and staff surveys all indicate a weaker than anticipated run of king salmon. Angler and guide reports on other tributaries of the Susitna River, combined with recent staff surveys, also indicate another weak return of king salmon to these areas. The sustainable escapement goal (SEG) for king salmon in the Deshka River is 13,000 to 28,000 fish, as measured at the weir located at River Mile seven. Based upon average run timing and the cumulative king salmon passage estimate of 6,852 fish at the Deshka River weir through June 21, the current final escapement projection falls below the 13,000 minimum goal.

Based on this information, the Division of Sport Fish has released Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-20-12 closing the Susitna River drainage to sport fishing for king salmon and limiting sport fishing gear in Units 1–6 of the Susitna River drainage in those waters normally open to king salmon fishing. This emergency order is effective from 6:00 a.m., Monday, June 25, 2012, through 11:59 p.m., Friday, July 13, 2012.

In order to conserve Chinook salmon migrating to streams throughout the Northern District, the regularly scheduled commercial fishing period for set gillnets on Monday, June 25, 2012 will be closed.